

AGENDA: July 8, 2003

4.13

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Public Works

TITLE: Stevens Creek Trail, Reach 4, Segment 2,
Project 99-58, Amend Contract for
Engineering Consulting Services

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the professional services agreement with Nolte & Associates, Inc. for additional engineering consulting services related to the Stevens Creek Trail Reach 4, Segment 2 Environmental Impact Report, increasing the contract by \$11,500 to \$260,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

On September 15, 1999, the City entered into a \$232,500 professional services agreement with Nolte & Associates to prepare a feasibility study to extend the Stevens Creek Trail, Reach 4, Segment 2 from Yuba Drive to Mountain View High School.

On December 10, 2002, the City Council authorized a \$16,000 increase to the Nolte & Associates agreement for preparation of schematic plans for alternative trail alignments between Village Court and the confluence of Stevens Creek and the Permanente Creek overflow channel. The proposed increase of \$11,500 will fund the refinement of the schematic plans and bring the contract total to \$260,000.

In approving the 2003-04 Capital Improvement Program, the City Council increased the project budget by \$150,000 from the Shoreline Regional Park Community Fund to fund the proposed amendment to the Nolte & Associates contract and the additional environmental services and staff time required to complete certification of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR).

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Stevens Creek Trail, Reach 4, Segment 2 is the last portion of Stevens Creek Trail in Mountain View, from Yuba Drive to Mountain View High School.

A Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) for the project was prepared by David J. Powers & Associates and released for public comment from July 5, 2002 through August 19, 2002. Thirty-five comments were received during the comment period. The comments primarily addressed impacts of the trail routing behind Village Court to the confluence area

where the Permanente Creek overflow channel connects to Stevens Creek south of Village Court. These comments addressed impacts on wildlife and vegetation such as the loss of Shaded Riverine Aquatic (SRA) habitat caused by the removal of trees where the bridges cross the creek and the effect of creek water temperature on steelhead trout. Comments also addressed the impacts of the trail alignment and bridge abutment and pier locations on creek bank stability and the impacts of construction activity on the streambed. The permitting agencies asked for more design and construction information to better assess potential impacts on sensitive areas.

In response to the comments, Nolte & Associates was hired to prepare schematic drawings of revised trail alignments that will have less impact on the two areas of most concern to the commenters and to evaluate the geotechnical impacts of the revised alignments. The revised alignments are identified as Areas A and B on the attached map (Attachment 1).

City staff met with Caltrans staff to review the new trail alignments and to discuss permits necessary to build a portion of the trail in the Caltrans right-of-way and to construct from the freeway side of the sound wall. Caltrans staff requested refinement of the schematic drawings and additional information, including the trail alignment relationship to the current State Route 85 travel lanes. The proposed amendment to the Nolte & Associates contract will fund preparation of the refinements requested by Caltrans. If Caltrans accepts the proposed changes to the trail alignment, staff will proceed to work with the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD) and the five other permitting agencies that will have jurisdiction over the project area.

Budget Issues

The cost of the additional work to complete the EIR depends on the review comments of Caltrans and the SCVWD on the revised trail alignments. Staff will work with the environmental consultant to develop the cost and scope of work required to complete the EIR and will return to Council with a request for a contract amendment when revised scope and costs are prepared. Staff expects the additional project funding of \$150,000, approved as part of the 2003-04 CIP, to cover the cost of the environmental services and staff time required for certification of the EIR.

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PUBLIC NOTICING—Agenda posting.

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FI/9/CAM
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Attachment: 1. Map

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